

BT 2009



Winery: Bodegas Santa Quiteria

Region: Almansa D.O.

Grapes: 100% Garnacha Tintorera

Winery: Formed in 2001 Santa Quiteria's production is focused on a type of Grenache known as Garnacha Tintorera. Other grape varieties used, but to a much lesser extent, are Tempranillo, Syrah, Cabernet and Petit Verdot. The site of the vineyards is at an altitude of between 900 and 1100 meters, which has proven ideal for this special clone of Grenache.

Wine: The Garnacha Tintorera (a.k.a. Alicante Bouschet) for this wine is harvested from 20 year old vineyards on the South-east of the Meseta of central Spain, surrounding the village of Higuera. Fruit for this wine come from a number of different

vineyard sites with varying altitudes and expositions with sandy and white, chalky clay soils. The vineyards are dry-farmed and trained in the traditional, vaso, vase-like manner. The production focuses on low quantity and high quality.

Grapes are picked when just ripe so as to present the best character of primary fruit. Both maceration and fermentation take place in stainless steel tanks with selected yeasts, first at low temperatures with dry ice to extract color and grape aromas and then at a relatively cool 70° F, to preserve those aromas. There is no attempt to extract additional tannin or color from the skins as it is not desired for this style of wine. Before undergoing malolactic fermentation the grapes are drained and pressed and then the wine is racked back to the stainless steel tanks. The wine is clarified and lightly filtered before bottling.

Reviews:

Featured as a Washington Post Recession Buster

1½ stars (between very good and excellent) by *Dave McIntyre* August 10, 2010

“Bright purple. Jammy dark berries on the nose, with a spicy note adding energy. Round, supple blackberry and blueberry flavors offer good, straightforward appeal and surprising depth for the price. Becomes spicier with air, picking up notes of anise and cracked pepper and finishing with good tangy cut. This is a pretty grown-up wine compared to the more obviously fruity under-\$10 bottlings out there.”

88 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 152 Sept/Oct 2010

“This colorfully packaged wine screams “concept export,” but what’s in the bottle holds up to scrutiny. There’s above-average cherry/berry aromas and then a full palate with popping acidity pushing lightly herbal plum and berry flavors. A well-made Garnacha from 20-year-old vineyards.” **Best Buy**

87 points *Wine Enthusiast* July 2011



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